

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

17 December 1987

AM 10:00

CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings:

21 January 1987 (Thursday)

18 February 1987 (Thursday)

B. Approval of 19 November 1987 minutes

C. Old Georgetown Board: Consideration of Advisory Neighborhood Commission Reports: Discussion

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 17/DEC/87-1, Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War
Memorial, Hill 72, Skyline Drive, Guadalcanal.
Design for memorial.

B. National Drug Policy Board

CFA 17/DEC/87-2, Design of agency seal.

C. District of Columbia Government, Redevelopment Land Agency

CFA 17/DEC/87-3, "The Portals," between Maine Avenue,
Maryland Avenue, 12th Street, 14th Street, S. W.,
a mixed-use development with office, commercial,
retail, and hotel. Preliminary concept designs.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 17 December 1987

D. District of Columbia Government,
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 88-18, 3550 Williamsburg Lane, N. W.
Addition to residence of Dr. and Mrs. Harman.
- b. S.L. 88-19, 8126 West Beach Drive, N. W.
Recontouring front yard with new drives and
retaining walls for parking court; residence of
Mrs. Everdine S. Jones.
- c. Appendix 1.

2. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 87-158, 1251 Bank Street, N. W. and
O.G. 87-159, 3307 M Street, N. W. Concept
design for new building; Colonial Georgetown
Associates.
- b. O.G. 87-214, 3610 P Street, N. W. Concept
designs for two new semi-detached houses;
Georgetown University.
- c. O.G. 88-18, 3133 K Street, N. W. Concept design
for new commercial building; DHW and JJB, Inc.
- d. O.G. 88-43, 3059 M Street, N. W. Temporary
sculpture installation; Fendrick Gallery.
- e. O.G. 88-37, 3242 Reservoir Street, N. W. and
O.G. 88-38, 3240 Reservoir Street, N. W. Final
permit applications for two new row houses,
(concept approval was January 1987, O.G. 87-29),
Aramus Corporation.
- f. Appendix II.

III. Freer Gallery of Art

CFA 17/DEC/87-87-4, Inspection of recent acquisitions.

17 December 1987

APPENDIX I

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 88-16	461 H Street, N.W. Dept. of Housing and Community Development	Handicapped access to building - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed handicapped access as shown in working drawings received and dated 25 November 1987.

S.L. 88-17	1845 Harvard Street, N.W. Dept. of Housing and Community Development	Handicapped access to building - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed handicapped access as shown in working drawings received and dated 25 November 1987.

17 December 1987

APPENDIX II

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-35	1000 29th Street, N.W. 29th & K Associates	Enclosed sidewalk cafe - permit
ACTION: No objection to design development as shown in preliminary working drawings received and dated 18 November, which conforms to previous concept approval (see O.G. 87-137). Working drawings and final design development shall be presented to the Commission for review before the permit is issued.		
O.G. 88-41	3211 R Street, N.W. Bodman Residence	Revision to permit #B325325
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for revisions to permit #B325325 as shown in working drawings received and dated 18 November. The applicant agreed to thinner dormer framing elements.		
O.G. 88-20	3323 Dent Place, N.W. Mulligan Residence	Window & door alterations - permit
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for alterations to door and windows as shown in drawings received and dated 21 October with modifications as agreed to by applicant during the meeting (elimination of window head arch).		
O.G. 87-209	3252 S Street, N.W. Levi Residence	Addition of shed & fence - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed addition of fence and shed as shown in drawings and supplements received and dated 24 September and 24 November, respectively.

17 December 1987

APPENDIX II

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-21	2722 O Street, N.W. Graage Residence	Alteration of garage & entry doors - permit
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alteration of garage and entry doors as shown in supplemental drawings for alternative #2 received and dated 24 November. The applicant agreed to recess the infill wood panel to same plane as door.		
O.G. 88-12	1417 33rd Street, N.W. Schwartz Residence	Porch enclosure - permit
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed porch enclosure as shown in drawings and supplements received and dated 28 October and 16 November, respectively.		
O.G. 88-36	3028 R Street, N.W. Spelman Residence	New chimney - permit
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for new flue, painted to match house, as shown in drawings received and dated 30 November.		
O.G. 88-44	3203 Grace Street, N.W. Richard Levy	Door alter- ations, marquee & sign - permit
ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for marquee and signs as being out of character with building and historic district. No objection to alterations of door as shown in drawings received and dated 18 November.		
O.G. 88-29	1210 31st Street, N.W. Marilyn Morris Fine Art	Sign - permit
ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed sign as shown in drawings received and dated 9 November. Recommend that the existing non-conforming planter/sign be removed.		

17 December 1987

APPENDIX II

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-34	1661 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Snider Brothers Property Mgmt. (Hatun Valet)	Sign (existing) - permit

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed sign as shown in drawings received and dated 18 November. Sign is out of character with building. (Recommend consultation with CFA staff at 566-1066).

O.G. 88-45	1518 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Multinational Exports & Imports	Sign - permit
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ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed sign as shown in drawings received and dated 30 November 1987. Sign is out of character with building. (Recommend consultation with CFA staff at 566-1066).

O.G. 88-08	3211 M Street, N.W. Kinney Shoe Corporation	Shop window & awning - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed shop window alteration and awnings as shown in supplemental working drawings received and dated 14 December.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

CAROLYN J. DEAVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

17 December 1987

The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., after a tour of project sites.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Roy M. Goodman
Hon. Frederick E. Hart
Hon. Neil H. Porterfield
Hon. Diane Wolf

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jose Martinez-Canino
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were confirmed as 21 January and 18 February 1988.

B. Minutes of the 19 November 1987 meeting were approved with one amendment requested by Miss Wolf which would insert the word "Commission," on page 9, to reflect that Advisory Neighborhood Commission reports would be sent to the Commission of Fine Arts members as well as Georgetown Board members when available prior to meetings.

C. Old Georgetown Board: Consideration of Advisory Neighborhood Commission Reports. The Secretary mentioned that the Georgetown Board had stated its strong preference for having Advisory Neighborhood Council reports after applicant presentations during their meetings. There had been a request by Ms. Wolf at the November meeting that the ANC reports precede the applicant's presentation. The Board's preference was for a presentation on the substance of the matter first. The Chairman observed that was standard practice at Commission meetings. The other members agreed that this would be the best way to proceed. Miss Wolf suggested that if the ANC recommendations were available prior to Commission or Board meetings that it would be helpful to have them included in advance informational packets sent to members of both groups. The members agreed.

II. SUBMISSION AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 17/Dec/87-1, Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War Memorial, Hill 72, Skyline Drive, Guadalcanal. Design for new memorial.

The Secretary said that a number of years before the Commission had approved a design for a prototype memorial to be erected at a variety of locations in the Pacific WWII theater area. The present proposal was to use this design for a memorial at Guadalcanal which would be amplified by additional elements telling the history of the battle. He introduced Col. Frederick Badger of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Col. Badger traced the history of the Japanese invasion of the South Pacific on a map and related the action on Guadalcanal and the loss of human life there. A private organization, the Guadalcanal-Solomon Island Memorial Foundation had purchased the land and an architect, Mr. Hugell, of Texas had prepared the plans. In addition to the prototype memorial marker of granite, there would be wing walls focusing on the areas of actual combat. Mr. Hart asked about the artist selection and was told that the Foundation had proceeded on a direct commissioning and had not opened the process or the design for public comment. Mr. Porterfield suggested that the most important element of the memorial would be its dramatic site. Miss Wolf stressed that information on the memorial and what it represents be clearly available to visitors. Sen. Goodman stated that he considered the design to be dignified and aesthetically appropriate as a symbol of gratitude for the great sacrifices made at this site. Sen. Goodman moved approval, seconded by Mr. Porterfield and the project was approved. Exhibit A

B. National Drug Policy Board

CFA 17/Dec/87-2, Design for agency seal.

The Secretary presented designs for an agency seal saying that copies of the design had been sent to the members the prior week. He said that the design had been developed by the Attorney General personally. Symbolism represented various aspects of the drug problem and the use would be on the agency's stationery. There was general discussion resulting in a recommendation that the wing elements be strengthened, perhaps with another row of feathers. There was an additional suggestion that there be a single background color. The design was approved with those comments. Exhibit B

C. District of Columbia Government, Redevelopment Land Agency

CFA 17/Dec/87-3, "The Portals," between Maine Avenue, Maryland Avenue, 12th Street, S.W., a mixed-use development with office, commercial, retail, and hotel. Preliminary concept designs.

Mr. Myer related the site to a map saying that the Portals was near a 14th Street gateway to the city and the Jefferson Memorial. He pointed out the significance of the site to the formal plan of Washington

saying that the Maryland Avenue, S.W., axis running through the project site was one of the three primary western axes radiating from the Capitol along with the Mall and Pennsylvania Avenue. He also mentioned that there had been a tour of the site earlier in the day and that the members had been sent advance material on the project. He introduced Mr. Larry Press, the representative from the Redevelopment Land Agency.

Mr. Press indicated that there had been previous development teams working on the site which was one of the last significant sites remaining in Redevelopment Land Agency control after some 30-years of urban renewal. He also pointed out that it was a problem site with railroad tracks, adjacent industrial uses, and a coal shaker on the site itself. The first phase of construction was anticipated in 1988.

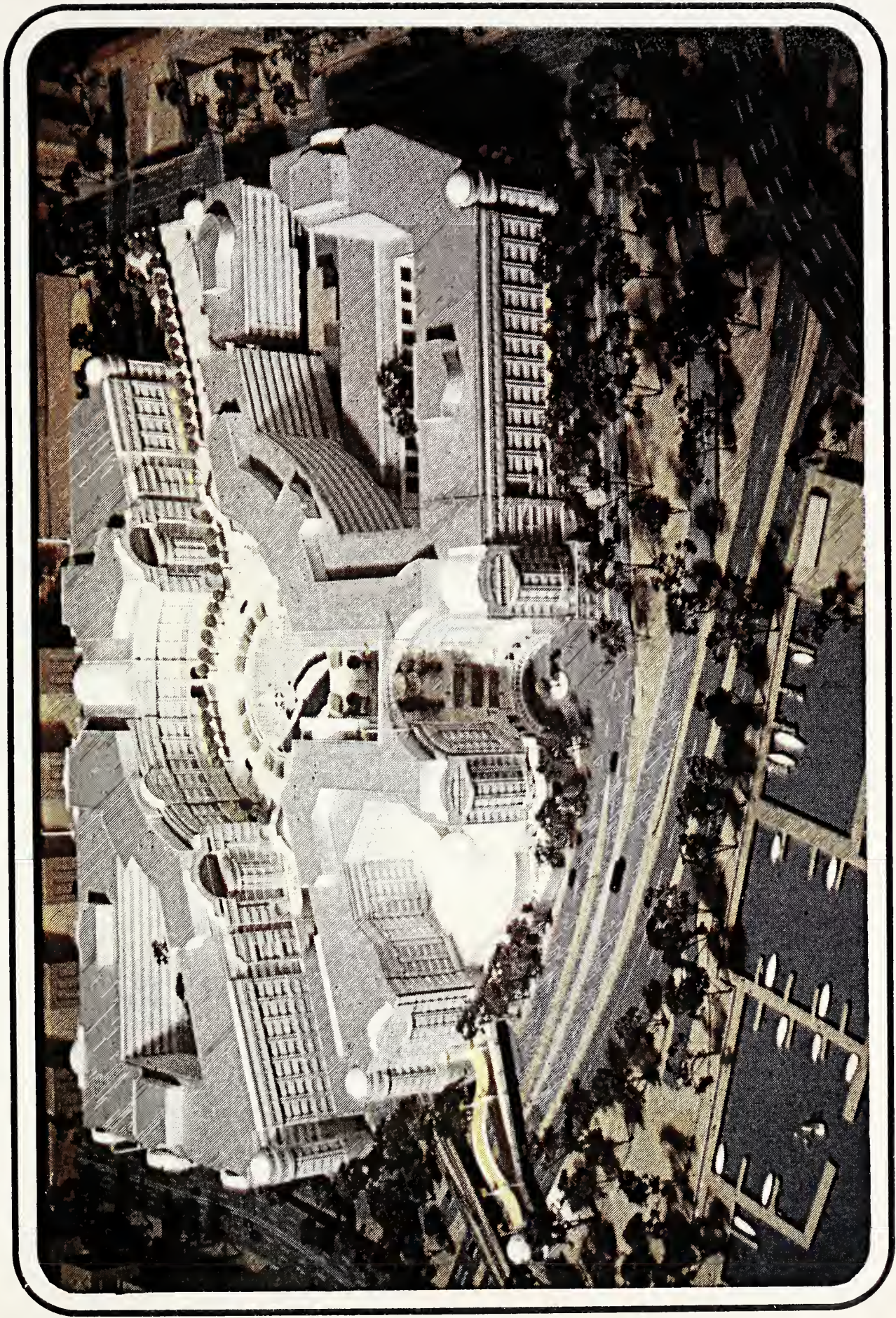
Mr. Press said that the presentation would be preliminary or conceptual and that in the following few months a more specific phase one design would be sent for Commission review. He then introduced Mr. Arthur Cotton Moore, the architect, who started the presentation with slides of the site and a model. Mr. Moore described the site and its amenities as well as problems, then described the design and phasing. Five buildings would eventually flank a new deck above the tracks on the Maryland Avenue axis. Buildings A and B, toward the southwest corner of the site, would be constructed first. Building C, flanking Building B, would then be built, followed by Buildings D and E, which would be across the Maryland Avenue axis to the north. The design emphasized the axis and vista toward the Capitol as a primary feature. Another feature was a relationship to the Washington Channel across Maine Avenue with an actual link created on an unused railroad bridge connecting the project site to the waterfront. There was some discussion about the project as Mr. Moore described landscape and urban design elements within the site.

Several of the members had questions about the treatment of a circle in the project center on Maryland Avenue. Within the circle would be landscape and water feature depicting the plan of Washington, though Mr. Moore indicated that plans were not yet final. The Chairman suggested that the Commission would condition its approval on the entire circle being built as part of the first phase; Mr. Moore indicated that he would be back to discuss its design further with the Commission. Mr. Press indicated that the Chairman's point could be a part of further negotiations.

Mr. Hart asked if a part of the project incorporated public or decorative art. Mr. Mendelsohn, a representative of the developers indicated that a carousel would be restored and installed as a part of the project. Mr. Moore indicated that the architects would be happy to incorporate art. Mr. Press said that a percentage of total cost for art was not a requirement for this site. Mr. Hart suggested that a specific financial commitment would be appropriate for a project which was adjacent to the federal enclave and was quasi-public. Mr. Moore and Mr. Mendelsohn both pointed out that the project involved taking an industrial area adjacent to the monumental core at a major city entrance and creating an exciting urban element. Mr. Mendelsohn tried to make a point that there were considerable public amenities in the project, at the developer's cost, and would be quite attractive. He also said that there would be a



17 Dec. 87-3 The Portals
Maryland Avenue btw.



17 DEC 87

17 Dec. 87-3 The Portals
Maryland Avenue btw.
12th and 14th Sts.

new Folger's Theater and a YMCA in the project which would contribute to public amenity.

Miss Wolf associated herself with Mr. Hart's interest in incorporating art in the initial stages of design. She cited the Federal Triangle with its use of art as part of the architecture, rather than as a later add-on. The Chairman also suggested that Mr. Hart's point about allotting a percentage of the project for arts had reached receptive ears and had Commission backing. Mr. Porterfield added that the project involved a partnership with the railroads and having them emerge from beneath the Maryland Avenue plaza could be very exciting and that the actual appearance of the track area and "tunnel" entrance should be thought of as design opportunities in the initial stages. Mr. Hart said that he wanted to add that he liked the stylistic approach and the relationship to the axis of the Capitol. Miss Wolf suggested that there was interest in the material and colors of the project. Mr. Moore responded that the exterior would be limestone. The Chairman suggested that was material for a future discussion. Mr. Hart moved approval of the concept designs and Mr. Goodman seconded the motion. The design was approved unanimously. Exhibit C

D. District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 88-18, 3550 Williamsburg Lane, N.W. Addition to residence of Dr. and Mrs. Harman.

Mr. Carson presented drawings and photographs of an existing ca. 1950's contemporary style house on the edge of Rock Creek Park near the Zoo. He indicated that the staff had visited the site and found the proposal harmonious with the setting and virtually invisible from the Park. He then introduced Mr. Thomas Colley, the contractor. At this point Mr. Hart indicated that if there was no objection or community concern with the project and it was not visible from the Park that it ought to be approved. This motion was seconded by Mr. Porterfield and the approval was unanimous. Exhibit D

b. S.L. 88-19, 8126 West Beach Drive, N.W. Recontouring front yard with new drives and retaining walls for parking court; residence of Mrs. Everdine S. Jones.

Mr. Martinez showed photographs and drawings of this residence facing Rock Creek Park and stated that the front yard was being excavated to provide parking space for a number of cars at the street level. Where the grade had been significantly reduced near the house, several retaining walls were proposed. The photos showed that work had already begun and most of the original front yard had been dug away. Mr. Martinez indicated that the staff had visited the site.

Mr. Jones, the owner's son, said that he and his mother had been in the house for about 2½-years and had difficulty with ingress and egress and guest parking. He indicated that there was a problem with safety that

made it difficult for his 70-year old mother to get in and out of the drive, particularly at rush hour. There was some general discussion about the project in terms of understanding what was being proposed. Mr. Sloan, the ANC 4A Vice Chairman, indicated that some of the adjacent neighbors had contacted him and were unalterably opposed to the changes. He added that the issue may be one for the Zoning Commission to review. He then indicated that neighbors were present and wished to oppose the project. Mr. Larry Mirel and his wife, living on one side, and Mrs. Emily Voltz, on the other side, indicated their opposition.

There was some general discussion with a sense that turning the front yard into a parking lot was not going to be acceptable to the community or the Commission and that the zoning question needed resolution. The suggestion was made by the Commission that the owner resolve any zoning issues, work with the neighbors, and return after reconsidering the design. Mr. Porterfield suggested that some professional design help may be necessary and that more respect for the site was in order. No formal action on the application was taken. Exhibit D

c. Appendix 1, approved.

2. Georgetown Act

a. 87-158, 1251 Bank Street, N.W. and O.G. 87-159, 3307 M Street, N.W. Concept design for new building; Colonial Georgetown Associates.

Mr. Myer noted that the Commission had previously reviewed the concept for the project in conjunction with approval of the required demolition for construction on the site, and had inspected the site just that morning. He noted that he was passing out copies of the favorable Georgetown Board Report and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission report. With that Mr. Myer noted that there had been some comments from the Board which related to the design's evolution and that it would be best to have the applicant's presentation first. He then introduced Mr. Shalom Baranes, the architect.

Mr. Baranes oriented the Commission to the site showing a model and the townhouses to the north and saying that the five foot alleyway between these houses and the project has turned out to be a private strip of property which required an added setback. He gave a general description of the project and efforts to work with the Georgetown Board and interested citizens. He added that his discussion with the Board had led to a stepping down toward the townhouses on Prospect Street and that the increase of set-back from the alley had actually moved the building farther from Prospect as well.

In response to the Chairman's question about the Board's reaction to the design, Mr. Myer indicated that the Board felt the M Street facade needed some simplification, but had felt the design was moving in the right direction. On the Bank Street side they had suggested elimination of a projecting false gable, which had been done, and the stepping of the top floor as previously mentioned. The changes in this area had been sufficient from what the Board had seen to raise questions about their

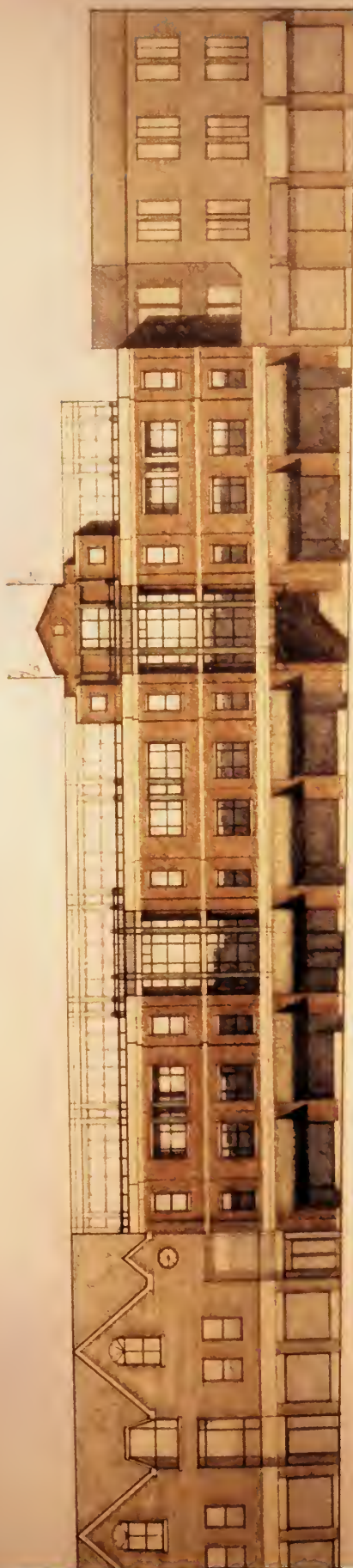
view of the present design. This was one item which could bear further discussion. The Chairman placed the written Board report in the record. Mr. Myer said that the ANC report was also in the record and that Mrs. Shannon, one of the commissioners, was present. Mrs. Shannon said that she would like to reiterate that the ANC had recommended against a four story building. There was general discussion about efforts to study traffic and then Mr. Myer introduced Mrs. Graff, President of the Citizens Association.

Mrs. Graff commented on the building being too big and concurring with the ANC report. She also said the Association would like to see some breaking up of the facade mass along M Street. She specifically suggested that the top floor be removed. Mr. Baranes referred to what would actually be visible in pedestrian perspective. The Chairman responded that an elevation drawing was most misleading because there was no foreshortening of lines as would actually be the case as seen by eye. There was then some general discussion of sightlines and the visibility of a project to persons moving up or down M Street.

Ms. Elizabeth Ridout then commented that the project was too big, that it was bigger than the houses facing Prospect Street to the north and too big in contrast to the buildings across M Street. Mr. Rublee, of the Citizens Assn. Zoning Committee pointed out that the truck and loading traffic would create a bottleneck. Ms. Carol Unger, who lived on Prospect Street also felt that there would be an undesirable traffic load introduced to the neighborhood.

At this point Mr. Porterfield talked of the difficulty of interfacing residential use with changing commercial and how the proposed building worked within the adjacent construction. He also expressed his belief that it was difficult to really know what the visibility of a new project was. The Chairman said that he felt there was not enough information on sightlines and actual visibility of the project. Mrs. Alicia Boyd asked for recognition and stated that the Foundation for the Preservation of Georgetown had opposed demolition making way for the proposed project. She indicated that the Foundation supported the ANCI position. Open space and the small scale of Georgetown Buildings should be considered.

A discussion of massing and height followed with some apparent confusion about how heights were measured and from where, on a hillside site, and how they would be visible. Mr. Hart said that the design had successfully dealt with the building's containment of mass. He suggested that if a true representation of the hillside were shown that the top of the houses on Prospect Street would also show from the M Street side. The Chairman said that since the Georgetown Board was not through with the design yet and it was difficult to assess the visibility of the project, and there was great community concern, it would be wise to hold the project for another month and prepare some additional sightline studies. Mrs. Boyd thanked the Chairman for his summation and, following a suggestion made earlier by Miss Wolf, said that it would be better to use feet and inches rather than stories when reviewing designs. Mr. Baranes asked for conceptual review approval with an agreement to bring in sightline studies at a later time during design refinement. The Chairman



M STREET ELEVATION

3 3 0 7 M S T R E E T

ARCHITECT

LOM BARANES ASSOCIATES

DEVELOPER

AUGUST 31, 1987

COLONIAL GEORGETOWN ASSOCIATES

O.G. 88-158
159

3307 M Street, N.W.
Mixed-use Bldg.

said the Commission could not do that. With that Mr. Baranes agreed to bring sightline studies and any changes recommended by the Georgetown Board for the Commission's January meeting. Exhibit D

b. OG 87-214, 3610 P Street, N.W. Concept designs for two new semi-detached houses; Georgetown University.

Mr. Myer passed out a favorable Georgetown Board report, a report from ANC 2E, tax information on residences which had previously been on the site, and nine letters from neighbors supporting the project. (The Commission had visited the site earlier).

Mr. Martinez mentioned that the matter had been reviewed by the Commission in November and referred back to the Georgetown Board with a suggestion that additional height reduction could be studied. A revised design had been reviewed and recommended which would reduce the actual height of the houses, as well as the apparent height through dropping the cornice line. He introduced the architect, Mr. Cochran, who said that the actual height had been reduced by two feet. He stated that the design, which was two-and-a-half stories, would act as a transition between the larger-scale University buildings and the smaller scale residences.

Several neighbors spoke against the height of the proposed houses, suggesting that two stories would be more appropriate, pointing out that most of the houses in the immediate vicinity were two stories and small in scale. Mr. Guy Goodwin likened the proposal to placing Georgian palaces with two-story frame townhouses. He also favored a definite change between campus scale and neighborhood scale outside the walls. Mrs. McDermid then spoke against the eastward march of large institutional buildings. She reiterated the suggestion that it was feet and inches, not stories which were the way to gauge the proposal. She also made a point favoring new construction no higher than the existing adjacent houses. Mr. Jeff Kilpatrick, an ANC commissioner, also favored a two-floor limit. The Chairman referred to a number of letters supporting the project which were in the file.

The Chairman then said that he had given considerable thought to the transitional element approach to the design of this project vs. the clean break between town-and-gown relationship favored by Mr. Porterfield. He stated his preference for supporting the Georgetown Board and for approving the scheme as presented because of its transitional role. Mr. Porterfield did not agree with this saying that he preferred contrast vs. transition on the campus boundary. He preferred continuing the two-floor height which is predominant in the vicinity, vs. the two-and-a-half story scheme recommended for approval by the Board. Mr. Hart associated his preference with the Chairman. Miss Wolf said that she associated herself with Mr. Porterfield's point of view and was against the proposal. At this point there was general discussion about height and how the measuring point changed with the change in grade. There was also discussion about the actual height of the previous buildings on the site, Mr. Goodwin adding that it was a two-story flat roofed row slightly higher than the corner building. The Chairman suggested that one of the difficulties of the design was the proposed gable shape, vs. the original flat roof. Mr. Thomas Parrott, another neighbor, also objected to the height of the new

houses and associated himself with the comments of Miss Wolf and Mr. Porterfield.

The Commission of Fine Arts had four members sitting at this point with a tie vote. The Chairman stated that there were not enough votes to approve the project. He also indicated that another solution involving more of the University's land to the rear of the houses may offer a house of the required size and bedroom count, below the two-and-one-half story height. He suggested that the architect could return when there were more members present, or consider design alternatives. The discussion was closed with no action taken (the 45-day time limit for Commission Action did not apply to this case because it was a "Concept" submission). Exhibit D

c. O.G. 88-18, 3133 K Street, N.W., Concept design for new commercial building; DHW and JJB, Inc.

Mr. Myer introduced this presentation noting that the Board and the Commission had visited the site of the new one-story building which would be built on a vacant site adjacent to the abandoned D.C. Incinerator. He gave members copies of the Georgetown Board's favorable report and introduced the architect, Mr. Mike Knapp who described the restaurant proposal. The theme was to pick up some of the traditional themes in the area with a structure which would step down the hill from Copperthwaite Lane to K Street. The architect noted that the Georgetown Board had reviewed the proposal several times recommending some lowering of parapets and reducing by four feet the overall height of the gable roofed portion facing Copperthwaite Lane. This had been done satisfactorily. There was general discussion favorable to the design and no opposition. The concept design was approved without objection. Exhibit D

d. O.G. 88-34, 3059 M Street, N.W. Temporary sculpture installation; Fendrick Gallery.

Mr. Martinez said that the proposal was for temporary installation of two sculptural figures on the facade of this brick, row commercial building. He indicated that the Board had reviewed the project and was not enthusiastic about it, especially because of the precedent it would set, but had forwarded the case for Commission review. The sculptor was Mr. Baird Cornell.

In discussing the matter the members felt that the proposal to introduce non-traditional elements to the facade of a building could begin a trend which would, as in this case, in effect be an overscaled sign, calling attention to a commercial enterprise. The proposal was disapproved without objection or community comment. Exhibit D

e. O.G. 88-37, 3242 Reservoir Street, N.W. and O.G. 88-38, 3240 Reservoir Street, N.W. Final permit applications for two new row houses, (concept approved January 1987, O.G. 87-29), Aramus Corporation.

Mr. Myer passed out copies of a Georgetown Board Report favorable to the project which had been given Commission approval in January 1987. The proposal was for a pair of two-and-a-half story, plus English basement

brick townhouses with garage entrances facing the street. He pointed out that the requested Commission action was approval of working drawings which were in conformance to the design given concept approval in January. He then introduced the architect, Mr. Cochran, who described the minor design changes since the time of the concept approval.

Mr. Cochran indicated that this review process had taken about three years. He described changes to the height of the kitchen windows to make them like the other windows. There were also some windows eliminated from the western elevation. The stoop was two feet higher, eliminating an interior mid-floor vestibule. Retaining walls were shown which would preserve a significant tree just to the west of the front of the houses.

Mr. Courts Oulahan, representing an adjacent property owner to the east, recommended that the Commission decline to approve the project based on an interpretation of it as a four story building and its height. He also mentioned that the Georgetown Board had noted objections from the community to approval of the project. He stated that the height and mass of the proposal would threaten the nearby smaller scale structures on the block. Mrs. Alicia Boyd then made a statement including mention of a D.C. Planning office document which addressed the subject of commercial construction being harmonious with adjacent residential use areas. She stated that the subject site was C-2-A and that residential, or any use was a matter of the owners reference and could change without an agreement. She then referred to a desire for retaining open space in the historic district and its importance in protecting the scale and setting of historic structures. She said that the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown was committed to preservation of the historic scale as well as historic buildings in Georgetown. The large size of the proposed infill of the new buildings into an existing fabric is what the Foundation was concerned with. She then referred to the concept plans and the final plans and discussed the changes that had occurred. She also indicated that there was a difference in interpretation of the height of the building. Mr. Mark Policy, the applicant's lawyer, then indicated that the actual height of the proposal had not changed, and that the present discussion was an exercise in dialectics.

Mrs. Westy McDermid then offered to read the ANC report, dated 11 September 1985, which included a request that any new construction respect open space and be compatible in scale with the neighborhood. She said that the site was in a two-story neighborhood.

The Secretary then stated that in anticipation of questions about the proposal the staff had closely examined the concept and final drawings and had noted the beforementioned changes in windows and stoops, but that the size had remained unchanged. He noted that the Georgetown Board was aware of these minor adjustments and were recommending approval because the drawings essentially conformed to the approved concept scheme.

The Chairman added that this was a question of fact and that the Commission had spent an extraordinary amount of time reviewing the project. At this point Mrs. Boyd suggested that the door was not closed to disapproving the project. Mr. Porterfield and the Chairman indicated that fairness was an issue and the concept approval carried an obligation to

work within a consistent pattern of developing final plans along approved guidelines. Miss Wolf said that after two years of sitting on the Commission she was in a better position to determine the appropriateness of this project and that the building would be too large for the setting. At this point the applicant's model was brought forward and discussed and visibility from Wisconsin Avenue and the scale of several nearby buildings was referred to, including a very large house diagonally across the street from the site.

Mr. Hart suggested that the Commission had been courteous in the reopening of some of the issues involved with this case, but that a judgment had already been made on the design, in January, and there were no significant changes to the proposal; therefore he moved approval of the final drawings. Mr. Porterfield seconded the motion. A vote was taken with Miss Wolf opposed and the other members in favor of approval.

Exhibit D

f. Appendix II, approved on motion from Mr. Porterfield with a second from Mr. Hart.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

EXHIBIT A

4 January 1988

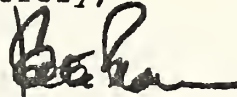
Dear Colonel Badger:

The Commission was pleased to meet with you at its meeting on 17 December and review designs for the memorial to be erected commemorating World War II action on Guadalcanal. The prototype design, which is essentially a 24' high square granite column prepared by Paul Thiry in the early 1970's, is most appropriate on this hilltop setting. The additional pebbled walls proposed by Texas architect Walter J. Bugel should also serve well as directional elements and to provide surfaces for the erection of suitable descriptions of the action.

In this regard, care should be taken to limit the quantity of information, especially if it might take different forms such as a variety of plaques. This could end up looking cluttered, and given the extraordinary natural panorama that can be seen from this site, it would be unfortunate if any of the additional foreground elements interfered in any way with this view.

It is the Commission's position that while these walls are being built by a private veterans foundation, we would certainly hope the ABMC will maintain control over what is put on them.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Colonel Frederick Badger
American Battle Monuments Commission
Washington, D. C. 20314

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT B

202-566-1066

4 January 1988

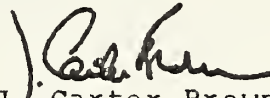
Dear Mr. Pickens:

I am pleased to report that the Commission of Fine Arts approved the proposed seal for the National Drug Policy Board at its meeting on 17 December. The eagle is greatly improved and should help the seal considerably.

In addition it was the Commission members' feeling that a couple of changes might also be considered. First, they questioned why there should be two shades of blue. Their preference is to limit the background to the single darker shade, which might help relieve the complexity of the design when rendered in scale. Second, the amount of solid black area on the eagle's wings could also stand some relief since it is a bit dense and looks a little forbidding in its present rendering.

While it will not be necessary to resubmit the design, we would appreciate a copy of your final version.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. David Pickens
Executive Director
National Drug Enforcement Policy Board
U.S. Department of Justice, Room 6649
Washington, D.C. 20530

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT C

202-566-1066

4 January 1988

Dear Mr. Press:

The Commission appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and architect Arthur Cotton Moore to review plans for the development of the so-called "Portals" site in the south-west urban renewal area along the waterfront. Framed on the north by the Engraving and Printing Annex, on the south by the freeway, and on the east by 12th Street, the Portals is a very large site of great importance, since as its name suggests, it serves as the major gateway to the city from the south.

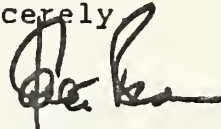
I am happy to say the Commission believes the proposed urban design of this project is entirely commensurate with the significance of the site. Its enhancement of the Maryland Avenue vista of the Capitol and the handling of the railroad tracks, its recognition of both east-west and north-south axes deriving from the orthogonal street systems, and its composition of building mass to reinforce the idea of gateway in several important locations are all highly commendable. Introducing the circular plaza element along the Maryland Avenue axis is an excellent way of organizing the varying building shapes that are created by the overlying geometries of the site, much in the same manner as the Federal Triangle. In fact, there is a strong architectural recall of the Triangle here, which is a desirable feature in itself, but at the same time raises a legitimate cause for concern in the minds of the Commission; that is, the inherent unity of the design which is its great strength, is threatened by the fact the sites on both the north and south sides of the railway are subject to completion in different phases. The Commission would like to stress unequivocally the necessity of RLA's commitment to completing the north side of the development according to the concepts presented at this time to illustrate the sense of overall continuity.

This same concern applies as well to the treatment of the public R.O.W. along Maryland Avenue, and it is again essential to be absolutely committed to the completion of the current scheme, ideally doing as much of it during this phase as is physically possible. The need to preserve this strong feeling of unity is paramount.

Of course there is much to be done in the development of the architectural details and the refinement of the many different elements. The basic parti at this stage, however, shows great promise, and there is every expectation of fulfilling a richly conceived design.

Again this raises yet another comparison with the Federal Triangle, and that is the integration of the architecture with other artistic and decorative forms of embellishment. We recognize that the developer has already committed considerable resources to accomodate various federal needs such as the GSA coal shaker and the special tunnel access to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, but at the same time it is our continuing belief that developing this extraordinary piece of publicly owned land is not only a unique opportunity but a privilege as well, and part of that privilege carries with it obligations that go beyond the bounds of conventional development. While these other practical needs are important, and while the proposed addition of a carousel on the new 13th Street axis could be a delightful amenity, it still behooves the developers to go further in incorporating artistic elements in their plans.

Sincerely



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lawrence Press
Chief
Marketing & Development
D.C. Dept. of Housing & Community Development
1133 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Room 400
Washington, D. C. 20002

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

17 December 1987

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-43	3059 M Street, N.W. Fendrick Gallery	Temporary sculpture

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed temporary sculpture as shown in drawings received and dated 18 November. The sculptures are an inappropriate encroachment on the character of the building. To permit such an installation, which is as much a sign as it is a piece of sculpture, would open up the door to the addition of all sorts of non-architectural elements, which in turn would diminish the character of the buildings and the historic district.

O.G. 88-18	3133 K Street, N.W. DHW & JJB	New building - concept
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ACTION: No objection to concept of new building subject to review and approval of material samples and working drawings by the Commission of Fine Arts prior to issuance of permit.

O.G. 88-37	3242 Reservoir Street, N.W. Aramus Corporation	New building - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for new residential construction. Working drawings conform essentially to the conceptual designs approved by the Commission of Fine Arts in January 1987. On site brick and mortar sample shall be erected for review and approval of the Commission prior to erection of exterior walls.

O.G. 88-38	3240 Reservoir Street, N.W. Aramus Corporation	New building - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for new residential construction. Working drawings conform essentially to the conceptual designs approved by the Commission of Fine Arts in January 1987. On site brick and mortar sample shall be erected for review and approval of the Commission prior to erection of exterior walls.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 87-158	1251 Bank Street, N.W.	New building
O.G. 87-159	3307 M Street, N.W. Colonial Georgetown Associates	New building - concept
ACTION: No Action taken during meeting. Requested more information and drawings reflecting views along M Street.		

O.G. 87-214	3610 P Street, N.W. Georgetown University	New building - concept
ACTION: Request additional studies of other housing schemes, varying relation of program requirements, building height and lot coverage and size to be more compatible with character of neighborhood.		

S.L. 88-18	3550 Williamsburg Lane, N.W. Harman Residence	Addition - permit
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed addition as shown in drawings received and dated 2 December 1987.		

S.L. 88-19	8126 West Beach Drive, N.W. Jones Residence	Retaining wall and driveway - permit
ACTION: Parking accommodations in front of residence are not acceptable in either the present or proposed forms. Commission requests applicant work with neighbors, ANC representative, and a qualified designer to develop a more acceptable design that will fit in with adjoining residences and respect the view as seen from Rock Creek Park.		

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution and the Commission of Fine Arts, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles Lang Freer, have examined the following:

1F 22

Transfers from the Study Collection:

- 1 Japanese painting; Edo period, 18th century, Ukiyoe school; by Tsukioka Settei (1710-1786); ink, color and gold on silk; hanging scroll.
- 1 Chinese pottery; Yüan dynasty (1280-1368); tripod-shaped incense burner.

Gift to the Collection:

- 1 Japanese pottery; Edo period, 17th-early 18th century; Karatsu ware, Takeo Karatsu kiln group; large plate with combed slip decoration and splashes of iron-yellow and copper-green glazes.

Purchases for the Collection:

- 1 Turkish silver and gilt bowl; Ottoman, late 15th-early 16th century.
- 1 PAIR Japanese paintings; Edo period, 17th century; by Yasunobu (Shichizaemon); ink, color, gold and silver on paper; handscrolls.
- 1 COUPLET Chinese calligraphy in Zhuan Shu (seal script); Ch'ing dynasty, by Qian Daxin (1728-1804); ink on gold-flecked paper; hanging scrolls. (Sotheby catalogue, December 8, 1987, No. 26.)
- 1 Chinese calligraphy in Xing Shu (running script); Ch'ing dynasty, by Chen Hongshou (1768-1822); ink on gold-flecked paper; hanging scroll. (Sotheby's catalogue, December 8, 1987, No. 120).

/s/ J. Carter Brown

12-17-87

For the Commission of Fine Arts

/s/ Robert McC Adams

12-17-87

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

